

THE  
BLESSEDNES OF  
BRITAINNE,

OR

A Celebration of the Queenes Holyday,

Conteining,

*A Breefe reheersall, of the inestimable Benefits,*

generally had & enioyed, not only all England ouer,

but also in forrein Partes, through the gracious Bountie,

and incomparable blessed Rule of our Royall

Queene ELIZABETH.

*Composed, and set foorth, in due Reuerence, & ioyfull Memoriall,*

of her Maiesties present entrance into the Thirtieth yeere of her

most triumphant raigne, with hartie prayer, for the

long continuing, and prosperous pre-

seruing of the same: by

Maurice Kyffin.

*Deum Timeate. Regem Honorate. 1. Pet. 2. 17.*

*Fiant preces pro Regibus & Principibus, vt tranquillam &  
quietam vitam degamus, cum omni pietate &  
honestate. 1. Tim. 2. 2.*

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*in Adling streete, at the signe of the White*

*Beare, neere Baynardes Castell.*

1587.

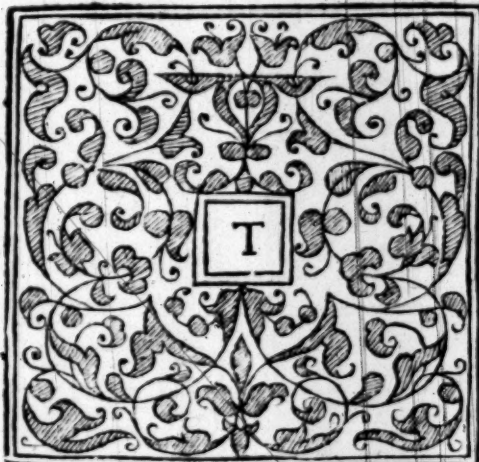
*Plura Posthac.*





TO THE RIGHT HONORBLE  
and Renoumed in all Heroicall Vertues, Sir

*Robert Devreux Knight, Erle of Essex and Exe,  
Vicount Hereford, and Bourgchier, Lord Ferrers  
of Chartleigh, Bourgchier and Lovain, and  
Maister of her Maiesties horse.*



*HE faithfull loue, and dutie, (Right honorable) long since deseruedly born, by my deceased Father, both to your lordships Noble Graundfather, and likewise to the famous and woorthie Erle your Father, (vnto whom for diuers respects, he was much bounden being alieue, & being dead, left the like Bond of dutie, in vs his children towards your Lordship) hath the more emboldened me, (presuming on your Lordships great Courtesies) To publish, vnder your fauourable protection, these my vnpolished verses, of her Maiestie: wherein, though I haue but shewen my leaden skill, in a Golden Cause, yet hath the same proceeded from such ardent desire, and deuotion in me, as thereby it may seeme, in some meane, to merit Tolleration, especially, sith it carrieth a dutifull remembrance, of her Maiesties most prosperous and peaceable raigne ouer vs: which hauing run the full, and Blessed Course, of Nyne and Twentie yeeres; doth now, begin the Thirtieth, to the great ioy, & inspeakeable comfort of this her royall Kingdome; In reuerend regard whereof, this poore Poem is most chiefly intended: I humbly therefore, present it to the Courteous acceptation of your most Honorable Lordship: Whome I beseech the Highest to blesse, and enriche, with increase of all perfect Honor, long life, and euer during felicitie.*

A 2

Most humble at your good  
Lordships commaundment.

Maurice Kyffin.



D. P. *To the Reader.*

TWO things make blisfull Realmes, *Religion* pure and *Peace* :  
Which Two our England hath enioyd, long time with large increase.  
The God of peace be praisd, who grauntes our Birth and Being,  
In this same *Realme*, with this *Rare Prince*, these *gladsome Seasons* seeing.  
And pray we God likewise, this State still to defend :  
Preseruing it, in perfect Peace, till that the world take end.  
The Author of this booke, deserues a during fame,  
Who chose a good Ground, for his worke, and wrought well on the same.

T. LL. *In praise of this booke, and the Author.*

WHO list to see her Noble deeds displaid,  
Whose golden gifts, eche creature doth adore,  
Whose Vertues Rare, haue haughty harts diumaid,  
Whose Name, and Fame, encrease more & more :  
Let them peruse this Poem, with Aduise.  
By *Kyffins* pen, put down in perfect wise.

A work of woorth, be seeming well his Arte,  
So fitly framd, and fraught, with tryed Truthe,  
As may Reioyce, eche loyall subjects hart,  
To heare, and see ; which hidden had bin Ruthe.  
Our Queenes long Raigne, to our still during ioy,  
The King of Kings, preserue free from Annoy,

J. H. *In commendation of this worke, & the writer.*

THE Persian *Cyrus*, *Xenophons* penne, *Achilles*, *Homers* found :  
King *Alexanders* valure great, did *Curtius* stile resound,  
Their worthie fame, those worthie wittes, to skies aloft do send,  
Those worthie wits, eake by their fame themselues to fame commend.

Though skilfull *Muses* notes, come short to sound this Princes prayle,  
Her Princely giftes, her Iustice mylde, her Peacefull lasting dayes :  
Yet *Kyffins* Muse in stately stile, hath shot so neare the same,  
That by resounding worthie praise, himself deserueth fame.

R. Cooke, *in commendation of his friend M<sup>r</sup>. Kyffin.*

THE frutefull *Muses* seeme, to haue conspird, with full assent,  
Vplifting *Kyffins* lore, with weightie woords to work Content :  
The subject of his Verse, is facted, firme, and full of grace,  
Whereon his Web is wrought, whose learned skill, none can deface,  
*Momus* the carping God, to Cauill here can finde no cause,  
And *Zoylus* spitefull wretch, hath here wherewith to stop his iawes.





THE BLESSEDNES  
OF BRITAINNE.

**P**earce Clio Muse, my weake, unwoorthie wit:  
Caliope, set forth my stile with strength;  
Unfold her Fame (with words forth sounding fit,)  
Whome Kings adore, & Lords in worldly length:  
Whose Sacred Hand the Stately Scepters hold,  
And Royall, Rules her Realmes in Crowned gold.

A Monarch Mayden Queene adorned rare,  
With Regall Heauenly dowres, of diuers kinde;  
In whome, who list dame Natures Workes compare,  
With those rich Thewes, & Vertues of her Minde,  
Shall much admire, at such a Myrrour sheene,  
At such a Prince, at such a Peereles Queene.

The



## THE BLESSEDNES

*The Starre of Women Sex, Graue Wisedoms store:  
Sententious, speaking Tongs in filed phraze,  
Profoundly learnd, and Perfect in eche Lore,  
Her Fame, no Ravning Time, shall euer Raze:  
Hater of Wrong, high Refuge eke for Right,  
Concord, and Peace, continuing by her Might.*

Besides that  
such manner  
of Reciting  
strange and  
Herbenish  
Names, were  
here altoge-  
ther inconue-  
nient, The au-  
thor doth also  
of very pur-  
pose, some-  
what shun  
that beaten  
high way, to  
fill paper with  
pestrung  
Names of fai-  
ned Gods,  
Goddesses,  
Nymphs, Per-  
sians, Greci-  
ans, Romans,  
&c. Being a  
thing of some  
sometimes v-  
sed, too too  
much, and to  
little effect.

*What should I Nymphs, or Goddeses Recount?  
Or Ægypt Queenes, or Romane Ladies name?  
Sith as Supreme, our Sov'raigne dooth surmount,  
In choice of Good, the cheefe of all those same?  
For to compare the Great, with simple small,  
Is thereby, not to praise the Best at all.*

*Elizabeth, Large Light of Sov'raigne Seat,  
Whose Iustice, Prudence, Temprance, Fortitude,  
Ingrafted yong, are grown foorth spreading Great,  
Throughout the world, mong Nations wise & rude:  
No land, but laudes this right Resplendant Rose,  
Tutor to Friends, and Terror vnto Foes.*

*As*



## OF BRYTAINE.

*As Shyning Sunne recleeres the darkned Skye,  
And forth recalles eche thing, from shiv'ring Shrowds,  
So hath our Second Sunne, both farre and nye,  
by brightning Beames, outcleerd erroneous Clouds:  
A pow'rfull Prop of Christes Euangell pure,  
One whose Support, it rests Reposed sure.*

The reestabli-  
shing of the  
Gospel, by  
her Maiestie,  
a work of in-  
estimable  
worth, euert  
singly fa-  
mous for euer  
and euer.  
*Primaria Prin-  
cipis Cura,  
Religio.*  
Dauid. 1. P. 13.  
Afa. 2. Par. 14.  
Iehof. 2. P. 17.  
Ioah. 2. p. 13.  
Iofias, 2. Reg.  
11.  
Hezechiah, 2  
Par. 29.

*Our Currant Coyne was Mettall base and meane,  
Till her most princely Grace, the same put out,  
By perfect Gold, and pured Siluer cleane,  
Which passe for cōmon Coynes, her Realms throughout.  
A Deede, deseruing her Perpetuall Praise,  
And Publik Profit, to this Land alwaies.*

*(Argentum  
purum Scoria,  
Isaiab. 1. 32.*

Base Coynes  
abolished by  
her highnes.

*Ad hereto Armour, and Artillery,  
Of her most Royall Charges cheefely found;  
As store of Arming Steele defensiuely,  
And Roring Gunnes, far rendring fired sound;  
A furth'ring Strength for Peace, and safe Repose:  
And Meanes, resisting Rage, of Warring foes.*

The royal in-  
crease of Ar-  
mour, & Ar-  
tillery, by her  
Maiestie for  
the defence of  
the Realme.  
*Felix est ea  
Res. qua tem-  
pore pacis,  
Bella tractat.  
Laur. Grimal.  
de optimo  
Senatore  
lib. 7. 1.*

*I may*

# THE BLESSEDNES

The incomparable Naue Royall, built & maintained by her Maie. sic. Pericles Atheniensium: Periculis paranda rationem putandam, Naues quamplurimas habere, alias vero extraneas rationes, nullius momenti existimandas.

*I may not here omit in Silent sorte,  
Her Royall Ships strong wrought for stearnful warre,  
(VVhereof all worldly Realmes do raise Report)  
Through raging Seas discovering Regions farre:  
A Scowre-sea Navy all bright & brauely burnisht  
Foorth spowting fire, faire, huge, and fully furnisht.*

Plentiful exercise of Religion; perfection in all kind of learning, & right whole some lawes, enioyed by her Maiesties most gracious meanes.

*VVhen flourish Learning to such Type of height?  
Or purefull Preaching, when had it more place?  
VVhen was Gods worde so knowne to euery weight,  
VVhich heretofore, did suffer such Deface?  
VVhen raignd Religion so deuoyd of cryme?  
Or rightfull Lawes, as in her Royall tyme?*

The Realme wonderfully enriched with Gold and Siluer. The earth most abundantly blessed with fertilitie, And euery man quietly enioying his own, vnder her highnes prosperous gouernement.

*VVhen was this Realme so rich of glittering Gold,  
Of plated Siluer, pearle, and precious stones?  
VVhen was more Tillage on this fertile Mold?  
Or more riche streaming Graces growne at ones?  
Or more Concordant life, in Country and Towne,  
Then since her Regall Highnes came to Crown?*

Her



## OF BRYTAINE.

Her Sacred Senate *by their graue foresight,*  
*Provide for Publik Good and Ev'ls preuent,*  
*Conseruing Common weale, from Perils plight,*  
*In Rightfull Ruling, Concord, & Concent:*  
*A Senate well besitting Such a Charge;*  
*Prudent, & prompt in Lore and Wisdome large.*

The vigilant  
 Care, and in-  
 cessant trauell  
 of her Maie-  
 sties most ho-  
 norable priuy  
 Council.

*From Wrathfull VVarre, her People rest in Peace:*  
*From wasting VVoes, her Subiects line Secure:*  
*And yet our Neighbour Nations VVarres not cease,*  
*Their dire distresse, and wailfull VVoes still dure;*  
*The Most of Might, eke makes her Realm a Towre*  
*Strangers to shield, from many a balefull Showre:*

The most  
 blessed and  
 peaceable  
 state of her  
 Maiesties (sub-  
 iects in com-  
 parison of o-  
 ther Nations,  
 round about  
 them.  
 Strangers gra-  
 ciously recei-  
 ued, and re-  
 leeued by her  
 Highnes,  
 within her  
 own king-  
 dom.

*A Mightie Queene, pure with Compassion prest,*  
*Rendring Reliefe, to Neighbour freends forlorn:*  
*Her helping Hand, holds up the weake distrest,*  
*And hath the haughtie, dreadfull, oft downbourn:*  
*VVhereof Records, full rife re.naining store;*  
*Note Scotland, Belgia, and many places more.*

Her Maiesties  
 gracious aide  
 vnto her di-  
 stressed neigh-  
 bours abroad.  
 Regia (creda  
 mihi) res est  
 succurrere  
 lapsis, Come-  
 mi vt tanto,  
 quantus es  
 ipse viro.  
 Quid li. 2. de  
 Pon.  
 "Low Coun-  
 tries,

B.

Liberall



# THE BLESSEDNES

Her Highnes  
bountifull li-  
beralitie.  
Her Mercy  
towards of-  
fenders.  
Imperia duo-  
bus potissi-  
mum continē-  
tur, Nimirum,  
Præmio &  
Pænæ: esse so-  
lone.  
Iustitia sine  
Misericordia  
Cruelitas.  
Misericordia  
sine Iustitia  
semita.

Lib'rall Rewarder of Heroicall Acts;  
Ritch in Reward, large giuing Gwerdons great;  
Prone eke to pardon, many offending facts,  
Yea though the same, concern her Regall Seat;  
Rigor of Iustice, in Reuenging Lawes,  
Myld by her Mercy, wreake not eche Cause.

Her Maiestie  
Princesse of  
Wales, where  
the Inhabi-  
tants enioy  
Gods worde  
in their own  
language,  
through the  
meere grace  
& goodnes of  
her highnes.

A Blessed Branch of Brutus Royall Race;  
To Brytish wightes a Blisfull worldly ioy,  
Puissant Princesse of Their Native place,  
To shield their Earthly liues from all annoy:  
And to their Sickly Soules, a Sov'raigne Leche,  
Graunting Christs Gospel, in their Country speche.

\*A perpetual  
memory of  
her manifold  
goodnes, in  
steade of  
Sonne and  
daughters.  
Præter pa-  
triam liberis  
Regem decet.  
Seneca in Tr.

Princely Possessor of this Realme full Right,  
And Heire apparant to the Heav'nly Crown:  
Assignd to serue Gods Truthe, with Maine & Might  
Vpraising Vertue, Vice depressing downe:  
Frutefull in Faith, though fruteles, wanting feere:  
Such brings shee Frute, in stead of Children beere.

Such



## OF BRYTAIN.

Such Rare, Renowned Deeds, our Queene hath don  
And more than my poore powre may well expresse:

*\*Omnis laus  
virtutis in  
Actione con-  
sistit Arist.*

Long hath her Raigne, this Glorious Race foorth run  
Long may it last, foorth bringing frutes no lesse:

*\*Violentia na-  
mo Imperia  
continuit dicitur  
Seneca T.*

Great is the Good, thus grown foorth, frō her Grace:  
Great good shal grow, through her like lēghned space.

O wretched Wights, that would this Queene enharne,  
By close contryuing of her Cruell Death;

*A reproof  
vnto Tray-  
tors.*

What cursed Circes, could their mindes so charme,  
As not to recke, to reauē their Liege of breath?

*They rewar-  
ded me Euill  
for Good: for  
they haue pri-  
uily laid their  
Net to destroy  
me without  
cause.  
Psalm. 135.*

Fell Raging Rome, all this is long of thee,  
From whence, no Troubling Treasons, here are free.

Our kingly Rooted Rose, fresh flowring stands;  
Garded by Gods great Powre, and Prouidence:

Amasing much, all Traitours trembling hands,  
Which plye to pluck this Plant by violence:

Yea Trueth downe treading Treason vnto shame,  
Victor suruiues, by vanquishing the same.

*\* Magna est  
veritas, &  
Præuale-  
bit. 3. c. 4.*



## THE BLESSEDNES

*Thrise happie Land, whose Sov'raigne Ladies life,  
The Lord enlengthning, saues from soddein haps;  
Though Ciuile Bronds, and forrein Furies rise,  
Conioyning erst, haue threatned Thunder claps,  
Yet Maugre Malice, Foes are put to foyle,  
And safe remaines, our Sov'raigne, & our Soyle.*

*Si Deus nobis-  
cum, quis con-  
tra Nos.  
Paul. 3. Rom.*

*The Angel  
of the Lord  
tarryeth about  
them that fear  
him, and that  
put their trust  
in him.*

*Psal. 34.  
There is no  
King that can  
be feared by  
the multitude  
of an Hoste,  
&c.*

*Behold the  
Eye of the  
Lord is vpon  
them that fear  
him, and that  
put their trust  
in his Mercy.  
Psal. 33.*

*Thrise happy Queene, acknown of God so deere,  
Gainst whome, what secret Mischeefs haue bin sought,  
But that the same, would presently appeere,  
By meanes Miraculous, as yet unwrought?  
A Sured Signe, whome God protects to Ioy,  
No lurking Ev'l, can thereto worke Annoy.*

*The prayer &  
wish of all  
good Sub-*

*O Glorious Ruler of the glistring Hev'n,  
Prolong her Health, with Heapes of happie Yeeres,  
That as her Rule hath Raignd twise Lev'n & Sev'n,  
So may shee still, surpas all Potent Peeres,  
To liue, and long time wield the Ciuile sword,  
As far, as course of Nature can affoord.*

*Far*



## OF BRYTAIN.

*Far Forrain lands, beare witnesse of her Name;  
Far surging Seas, haue felt her warlik Ships;  
Both Seas, & Lands, foorth thunder out her Fame,  
Through force of flowring Acts, free from Ecclips:  
Elizabeths due praise shall neuer dye,  
In Earth, nor Seas, nor in the starrie Skye.*

*Fama manus  
facti, posita  
velamine, cas-  
tunt; Et ma-  
mortis fama,  
qui bene ges-  
su habet.  
Ouid. li. 2.  
Fast.*

*Right Reu'rend Princess, rare is thy Renown,  
Though Spitefull Enuie, spue foorth poysoned gall;  
Naught shall it crase, thine Acts Eternall Crowne,  
Nor minish much, thy sound successe at all:  
No Best may shunne fell Enuies sowerfull stench,  
Whom Kezars, Kings, & Queenes, haue faild to  
(quench.*

*\* Ars prima  
Regni, et pos-  
se Inuidiam  
pati. Senec. in  
Herc. fur.*

*As Highest Hills, bide fiercest force of VVeather,  
And Tall Trees tops, beare greatest stresse of VVinde,  
As finest Blacke, yelds shoue of smallest fether,  
And in Pure VVhite, the least black Mote we finde:  
So Enuies shaft, is shot at Highest Marke;  
And pries in Purest Things, whereat to barke.*

*\* Summa petis  
linor, per-  
flant alijsuna  
venti.  
Ouid.*

No

## THE BLESSEDNES

*No Ruler Such hath weld this Realme of yore,  
Fewe Realmes haue ioyd, so long a Peacefull Rule:  
No Realme is read, & haue Rul'de bin heretofore,  
By such a Queene, safe quelling Ciuile Brule;  
Vvho raigning still, a Prince withouten peere;  
Her highnes now, holds on her Thirtieth yere.*

*Quaque  
quam regna,  
perpetuo ma-  
nent. Senec.  
in Med.*

*Adore Nouembers sacred\* Sev'nteenth Day,  
Vvherein our Second Sunne began her Shine:  
Ring out lowd sounding Bels; on Organs play;  
To Musikes Mirth, let all Estates incline:  
Sound Drumes, & Trūpets, renting Ayre & Ground  
Stringd Instruments, strike with Melodious sound.*

*\*More fit to  
be solemniz-  
ed, than ma-  
ny other  
dayes noted  
in the Ka-  
lender.*

*Ye Mightie Men of Mars ennobled Knights,  
Aduance your selues, on fiery foming steedes:  
Reuiue This Tymes Remembrance, with all Rights,  
In Armour bright, and gorgeous warlik weedes:  
At Tylt, & Turnay, trying Martiall Might;  
And Battring strokes, at Barriers forcefull fight.*

*Ye*



## OF BRYTAINE.

*Ye Cuntry folke, foorth stalking in your feelds,  
Lowd Carols sing, to celebrat This Tyme;  
Show Signes of ioy (as Cuntry manner yeldes,)  
In Sporting Games, with Daunce, and rurall Ryme:  
Eche Swayne, and Sheppard, sound his piping Reede,  
For ioy, enioying Feelds, & Flocks to feede.*

*Ye Bryttish Poets, Repeat in Royall Song,  
(With waightie woords, vsde in King Arthurs daies)  
Th'Imperiall Stock, from whence your Queene hath sprong;  
Enstall in verse your Princeesse lasting prayes:  
\*Pencerddiaid, play on Auncient Harp, and Crowde:  
\*Atceiniaid, sing her prayes pearcing lowd.*

\*Masters in  
the Science of  
Musick.  
\*Expert men  
in singing.

*Let Hilles, & Rocks, rebounding Ecchoes yelde,  
Of Queene Elizabeths long lasting Fame;  
Let woody Groaues, and VVatry Streames be fild,  
And Creeks, & Caues, with sounding of the same:  
O Cambria, stretch, & straine thy vtmost breth,  
To praise, and pray for Queene Elizabeth.*

*Her*

THE BLESSEDNES, &c.

Let every  
faithfull sub-  
ject say  
Amen.

*Her Third tyme Ten yeres Raigne, we now possesse;  
Thrise three times Ten, god graūt her grace may raign  
To this her Realmes long wist for wealfulnesse,  
Vwhereby, eche long erst Losse, it may Regain:  
And so Redound, the happiest Realme for ay,  
Vnturnd from Truthe, evn till the Latter Day.*

God Preserue Queene Elizabeth.

Psalm. 147.

*O Hierusalem praise the Lord: Praise thy God, o Sion.  
For he hath strengthened the Barres of thy Gates: And  
hath Blessed thy Children within thee. He hath made all  
thy Borders Peace: And with the good Nutriment of Wheat  
doth satisfie thee, &c. He hath not done thus to euery  
Nation els: Praise we all the Lord therefore. Amen.*

FINIS.



